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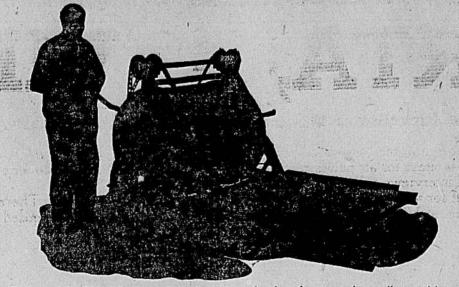
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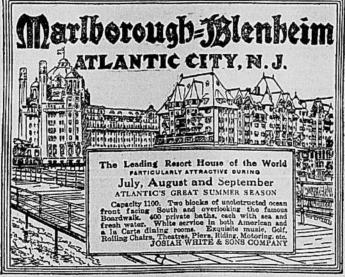
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Getting Ready for the Fair. If you have not started to look over

your hirds and pick out the most likeat once. Look them over, pull out the broken feathers, time enough left to ter than broken .ubs. If you have any with scaly legs get 5 cents worth of sulphur, mix with kerosens oil and lard and apply about every other look lots better. Get into the game win a ribbon or not; you will find your venture more instructive to you than reading a thousand articles on "How to win the ribbons." I remember going out to the fair one day last fail and stopping a few minutes to look at my first prize pen of buff orphingtons. I overhead this remark: "They look right nice, but I've got nicer ones at home that would beat them all hollow." "What kind are they?" the lady with him isked. "Rhode Island Reds," was his quick answer. Now life he would only enter a few of his birds that would beat the other fellow all hollow he would at least learn to distinguish the different breeds when he saw them, even if he would take a thousand years to become a poultry judge. You have to exhibit to find out the great friendly rivairy that exist, to become possessed of a few of these little silk ribbons. As I sit writing this at 11 P. M. I see a light fitting back and forth across the road, and I know it's my frieind Ford talking to his leghorns and telling them how to stand up nicely when the judge comes along with his little siick. Yes, gentle reader, preparing chickens for a beauty show. I understand the Misses Sweeney have a young rooster they brought all the way from Boston to enter at the fair. No, I can't tell you the breed. It wouldn't be fair. I am glad to see quite a few ladies becoming interested in thoroughbred poultry. There is a big field open to the women of Virginia to establish themselves in an independent and lucrative business. They have more patience than the average man, and generally make a success of it. Here's closing with the hope that Miss Clara Smith will bring down a nice string of orpingtons, like she had at the State fair last fall, surprising us all with the quality win a ribbon or not; you will find your venture more instructive to you than

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